

Town of West Hartford assists businesses to reopen with Outdoor Dining and Outdoor Retail

WEST HARTFORD, CT (May 20, 2020) – The Town of West Hartford looks forward to assisting restaurants and retailers reopen in accordance with Executive Order 7MM beginning Wednesday, May 20, 2020.

In an effort to help businesses navigate the rules and requirements of reopening, a web page and electronic application has been created on the Town’s site, https://www.westhartfordct.gov/gov/departments/pz/outdoor_dining.asp.

“The success of our all of our businesses is important. We are here to help them get restarted,” said Mayor Shari Cantor. Matt Hart, Town Manager, added “we’ve worked to make the digital application for outdoor dining and retail as streamlined and user-friendly as possible. We’ve already received a number of submissions through our new portal.”

To reopen, businesses must meet state and town requirements.

State of Connecticut Guidance / Requirements

The State of Connecticut has issued guidance for the reopening of outdoor dining and retail spaces to be effective Wednesday May 20, 2020.

All restaurants and retailers seeking to reopen must self-certify and commit to comply with the Sector Rules established to keep their employees and customers safe. The State of Connecticut has created an online self-certification portal available here: <https://business.ct.gov/recovery>.

- Reopen Connecticut Sector Rules for Restaurants (Outdoor Dining Only) are available [here](#).
- Reopen Connecticut Sector Rules for Retail are available [here](#).

Executive Order 7 MM was issued to simplify and create an expedited municipal approval process for expanded outdoor dining and retail activities. A copy of the Order is available [here](#).

Town of West Hartford Special Application for Outdoor Dining and Outdoor Retail

The Special Application applies to all new or expanded outdoor dining and outdoor retail as defined in Executive Order No. 7MM. In addition, a separate Health District Application is required for new or expanded outdoor dining. Approval authorized by this Special Application shall be valid as long as the Executive Order remains in effect and supersedes any existing outdoor dining permit approvals from the Town of West Hartford. There is fee associated with this special application.

Restaurants with existing outdoor dining permits may operate under those permits provided that there is no expansion of either seat count or dining area, and operation is in full compliance with the REOPEN Connecticut Sector Rules for Restaurants (Outdoor Dining Only). However, if any alterations to kitchen or food preparation areas are made, a separate review by the Health District will be required.

A copy of the Special Application is available [here](#).

A copy of the Health District application is available [here](#).

Completed Health District Applications should be emailed to Chris Hansen at Christopher.Hansen@WestHartfordCT.gov

The Special Application review will be conducted by the Town's Local Enforcement Officials, including the Director of Health, Director of Public Works, Chief Building Official, Fire Marshal, and Zoning Enforcement Officer.

Applications will be reviewed and approved in 10 days or less after a complete application is received.

For questions or help with the Special Application review process, please contact Brian Pudlik, Zoning Enforcement Officer at brian.pudlik@westhartfordct.gov.

For questions or help with Health District Application review process, please contact Chris Hansen, Environmental Sanitarian III at Christopher.Hansen@WestHartfordCT.gov.

MEDIA CONTACTS

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